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Ser. No. 09/295,230
Atty. Ref. Blind Gift
Art Unit 3639

MAY 07 2007

II. REMARKS

Respectfully, and generally for the reasons set forth below, the objections and rejections and each ground therefore are traversed.

Claims 1 and 19 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112. The Examiner contends that "the word 'devoid' is not supported by the specification, a word search was completed and the word 'devoid' was not found.

In response, "without" and "devoid" both mean "lacking", as shown by the enclosed dictionary definition from Webster's Dictionary. To limit issues on appeal, and without prejudice, Applicant chooses to return to the without word used in the prior incarnation of these claims.

Claims 9, 41, 73, 105, and 113 have been objected to. The Examiner contends that these claims are of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. As per claims 9 and 133, the Examiner contends that the parent claims contain only the method for acceptance of the gift, and that there is no option for refusal.

In response, the objection is respectfully traversed, but to limit issues on appeal, the foregoing amendment is believed to render the objection moot. As regards the amendment to claim 133, the Examiner's attention is drawn to claim 10 where such language appears.

Claims 1-2, 4, 9, 11-14, 16, 19-21, 28-29, 30-34, 36-41, 43-50, 62-66, 68-73, 75-82, 94-98, 100-105, 107-117, and 124-125 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. Sec. 102 for reasons set forth in the Office Action. The Examiner contends that these claims are anticipated by Bezos for reasons set forth more particularly in the Office Action.

In response, the rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth in the prior Amendment and Response, and reconsideration is requested at least in view of the amendment.

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Claims 15, 17, and 18 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. Sec. 103. The Examiner contends that these claims are obvious over Bezos, in view of Walker (claim 15) and Oneda (claims 17-18).

In response, the rejection is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth in the prior Amendment and Response, and reconsideration is requested at least because Professor Hollaar's declaration has not been given due consideration as regards the Examiner's obviousness contention.

III. Conclusion

It is believed that the foregoing amendment will place the application in better condition for allowance or appeal. No further search is believed to be necessitated by the amendment because the amendment either utilizes previously searched language or responds to technical objections to dependent claims. The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and favorable action is respectfully requested.

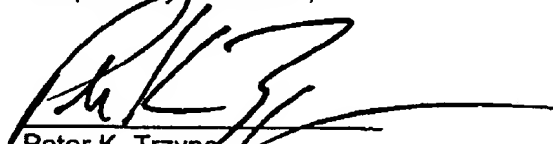
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set out below if it can in any way expedite or facilitate issuance of a patent on the application.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned at the address given below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the above-identified patent application or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 50-0235.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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RANDOM HOUSE WEBSTER'S *unabridged dictionary*

SECOND EDITION

**RANDOM HOUSE
REFERENCE**

NEW YORK TORONTO LONDON SYDNEY AUCKLAND

wite

2183

Wm.

Chiefly Scot. to blame for; declare guilty of. Also, *wyta*. [bef. 900; (n.) ME OE *wite* penalty; c. OHG *wlzi*, ON *witi*; (v.) ME *witen*, OE *witan* to blame]

wite (wīt), v. a pres. pl. of *witt*.

wite-nage-mot (wīt'n e gōt'), n. Early Eng. Hist. the assembly of the witan; the national council attended by the king, aldermen, bishops, and nobles. [1585-95; mod. E < OE *equit*, to witness, gen. pl. of *wita* council (see *WITAN*) + *gemōt* moot]

with (with, wīth), prep. 1. accompanied by; accompanying: *I will go with you. He fought with his brother against the enemy.* 2. in some particular relation to; implying interaction, company, association, conjunction, or connection: *I dealt with the problem. She agreed with me.* 3. characterized by or having: *a person with initiative.* 4. (of means or instrument) by the use of; using: *to line a coat with silk; to cut with a knife.* 5. (of manner) using or showing: *to work with diligence.* 6. in correspondence, comparison, or proportion to: *Their power increased with their number. How does their plan compare with ours?* 7. in regard to: *to be pleased with a gift.* 8. (of cause) owing to: *to die with pneumonia; to go with fear.* 9. in the region, sphere, or view of: *It is day with us while it is night with the Chinese.* 10. (of separation) from: *to part with a thing.* 11. against, as in opposition or competition: *He fought with his brother over the inheritance.* 12. in the keeping or service of: *to leave something with a friend.* 13. in affecting the judgment, estimation, or consideration of: *Her argument carried a lot of weight with the trustees.* 14. at the same time as or immediately after; upon: *And with that last remark, she turned and left.* 15. of the same opinion or conviction as: *Are you with me or against me?* 16. in proximity to, or in the same household as: *He lives with his parents.* 17. (used as a function word to specify an additional circumstance or condition): *We climbed the hill, with Jeff following behind.* 18. in with. See in (def. 22). 19. with child, pregnant. 20. with it, slang. a. knowledgeable about, sympathetic to, or partaking of the most up-to-date trends, fashions, art, etc. b. representing or characterized by the most up-to-date trends, fashions, art, etc. 21. with that. See that (def. 10). [bef. 900; ME *with*, opposite, against; c. ON *with*, appar. short var. of OE *withra* against; c. OS *withra*, OHG *widra*, ON *withr*, Goth *withra*]

with-, a combining form of *with*, having a separative or opposing force: *withstand*; *withdraw*. [ME, OE. See *WIT*]

withal (wīth'ol, wīth-,) adv. 1. with it all; as well besides. 2. in spite of all; nevertheless. 3. Archaic. with about; therewith. —prep. 4. with (used after its object). [1150-1200; ME *withal* with all; c. OE *mid ealle*, mid allum. See *WIT*, *ALL*]

withdraw (with drō', wīth-,) v. -draw, -drawn. -drawing. —o.t. 1. to draw back, away, or aside; take back; remove: *She withdrew her hand from his. He withdrew his savings from the bank.* 2. to retract or recall: *to withdraw an order; to cause a bill to be withdrawn* 3. to undergo withdrawal from addiction to a substance. —u.i. 4. to go or move back, away, or aside; retire; retreat: *to withdraw from the room.* 5. to remove oneself from some activity, competition, etc.: *He withdrew before I could nominate him.* 6. to cease using or consuming an addictive narcotic (sl. by fr.): *to withdraw from heroin.* 7. Part. Proc. to remove an amendment, motion, etc., from consideration. [1175-1225; ME *withdrawen*. See *WIT*, *draw*] —with-draw-a-ble, adj. —with-draw-ing, wīth-draw'ing-, n. —with-draw-ing-, wīth-draw'ing-, n. —with-draw-ing-, wīth-draw'ing-, n. —Syn. 2. revoke, rescind, disavow. 4. See *depart*.

with-draw-al (wīth drō'al, drō'ol, wīth-,) n. 1. Also, *with-draw-ment*, the act or condition of withdrawing. 2. Pharm. the act or process of ceasing to use an addictive drug. 3. coitus interruptus. [1740-50; *withdraw* + *-al*]

withdrawal syndrome, Pharm. a spectrum of physical and behavioral symptoms following cessation from the continuous use of an addictive drug, the character and severity of the symptoms depending upon the particular drug and the daily dose.

withdrawing room, Archaic. a room to withdraw or retire to; drawing room. [1585-95]

with-drawn (with drō'n, wīth-,) v. 1. pp. of *withdraw*. —adj. 2. removed from circulation, contact, competition, etc. 3. shy; retiring; recedent. —with-drawn-ness, n.

—Syn. 3. quiet, reserved, aloof, detached.

with-drew (with drō', wīth-,) v. pt. of *withdraw*.

with (with, wīth, n.), n. u. wīthed, wīth-ing. —n. 1. a willow twig or osier. 2. any tough, flexible twig or stem suitable for binding things together. 3. an elastic handle for a tool, to lessen shock occurring in use. 4. a partition dividing flues of a chimney. —u.i. 5. to bind with withes. [bef. 1000; ME, OE *withra*; akin to ON *withr*, *withra*, Goth *withra* chain, L *vitra* to weave together]

with-er (with'er), v. i. 1. to shrivel; fade; decay: *The grapes had withered on the vine.* 2. to lose the freshness of youth, as from age (often fol. by *away*). —u.i. 3. to make flaccid, shrunken, or dry, as from loss of moisture; cause to lose freshness, bloom, vigor, etc.: *The drought withered the buds.* 4. to affect harmfully: *Reputations were withered by the scandal.* 5. to abash, as by a scathing glance; a look that withered him. [1250-1300; ME, *with*, var. of *WITHER* (v.) —with-er-ing-, wīth'er-ing-, n. —with-er-er, n. —with-er-ing-ly, adv.

—Syn. 1. wrinkle, shrink, dry, decline, languish, droop, waste. *WITHER*, *SHRIVEL* imply a shrinking, withering, and wrinkling. *WITHER* (of plants and flowers) is to dry up, shrink, wilt, fade, whether as a natural process or as the result of exposure to excessive heat or drought. *Plants withered in the hot sun.* *SHRIVEL*, used of thin, flat objects and substances, such as leaves, the skin, etc., means to curl, roll up, become wrinkled: *The leaves shriveled in cold weather. Paper shriveled in fire.* 3. humiliate, shame.

With-er (with'er), n. *George*, 1588-1687, English poet and pamphleteer. Also, *With-ers* (with'ers).

with-er-ite (with'er it'), n. a white to grayish mineral, barium carbonate, BaCO₃, occurring in crystals and masses: a minor ore of barium. [1785-95; named after W. Withering (1741-99), who first described it; see *-ite*]

with-er-rod, either of two North American viburnums, *Viburnum cassinoides* or *V. nudum*, having tough, osierlike shoots. [1840-50, Amer.]

with-ers (with'ers), n. (used with a plural u.) 1. the highest part of the back at the base of the neck of a horse, cow, sheep, etc. See *ding*, under *dog*, *horse*. 2. *wring one's withers*, to cause one anxiety or trouble: *The long involved lawsuit is wringing his withers.* [1535-45; orig. uncert.]

with-er-shins (with'er shinz'), adv. Chiefly Scot. in a direction contrary to the natural one, esp. contrary to the apparent course of the sun or counterclockwise: considered as unlucky or causing disaster. Also, *with-er-shins*. Cf. *deasil*. [1505-15; < MLG *wedder-shins* < MHG *wedder-shins*, equiv. to wider (OHG *widar*) opposite (see *WIT*) + *shins*, gen. of *sin* way, course (c. OE *sih*); see *SEND*, *-s*]

With-er-spoon (with'er spōon'), n. John, 1723-94, U.S. theologian and statesman, born in Scotland.

with-hold (with hold', wīth-,) v. -held, -hold-ing. —u.i. 1. to hold back; restrain or check. 2. to refrain from giving or granting: *to withhold payment.* 3. to collect (taxes) at the source of income. 4. to deduct (withholding tax) from an employee's salary or wages. —u.i. 5. to hold back; refrain. 6. to deduct withholding tax. [1150-1200; ME *witholden*. See *WIT*, *hold*] —with-hold-er, n. —Syn. 1, 2. suppress, repress. See *keep*. —Ant. 1, 2. advance.

withhold-ing tax, that part of an employee's tax liability withheld by the employer from wages or salary and paid directly to the government. Also called *withhold-ing*. [1940-45]

with-in (wīth'in, wīth-,) adv. 1. in or into the interior or inner part; inside. 2. in or into a house, building, etc.; indoors: *The fire was burning on the hearth within.* 3. on, or as regards, the inside; internally. 4. inside an enclosed place, area, room, etc.: *He was startled by a cry from within.* 5. in the mind, heart, or soul; inwardly.

—prep. 6. in or into the interior of or the parts or space enclosed by: *within city walls.* 7. inside of, in. 8. in the compass or limits of; not beyond: *within view* to live within one's income. 9. at or to some point not beyond, as in length or distance; not farther than: *within a radius of miles.* 10. at or to some amount or degree not exceeding: *within two degrees of freezing.* 11. in the course or period of, as in time: *within one's memory; within three minutes.* 12. inside of the limits fixed or required by; not transgressing: *within the law.* 13. in the field, sphere, or scope of: *within the family; within one's power.* —n. 14. the inside of a place, space, or building. [bef. 1000; ME *withine* (prep. and adv.), OE *withinnan* (adv.), equiv. to *with* *withra* + *innan* from *within*, equiv. to *in* + *-an* suffix of motion from]

with-in-doors (wīth'in dōrz', dōrz', wīth-,) adv. into or inside the house. [1575-85; *withra* + *door* + *-s*]

with-in-named (wīth'in nāmd', wīth-,) adj. that is named herein. [1560-70]

with-out (with out', wīth-,) prep. 1. with the absence, omission, or avoidance of; without: *with no or none of; lacking; without help; without shoes; without her help; without him to help.* 2. free from; excluding: *a world without hunger.* 3. not accompanied by: *Don't go without me.* 4. at, on, or to the outside of; outside of: *both within and without the house or the city.* 5. beyond the compass, limits, range, or scope of (now used chiefly in opposition to *within*): *whether within or without the law.* —adv. 6. in or into an exterior or outer place; outside: *7. outside a house, building, etc.: The carriage awaits without.* 8. lacking something implied or understood: *We must take this action without.* 9. as regards the outside; externally. —conj. 10. the outside of a place, region, area, room, etc. —conj. 11. Midland and Southern U.S. unless. [bef. 900; ME *withouten*, OE *withutan* (adv. and prep.), equiv. to *with* *withra* + *utan* from *without*, equiv. to *ūt* *out* + *-an* suffix of motion from]

with-out-doors (wīth'out dōrz', dōrz', wīth-,) adv. out of doors. [1810-20; *without* + *door* + *-s*]

with-stand (with stand', wīth-,) v. -stood, -stand-ing. —u.i. 1. to stand or hold out against; resist or oppose, esp. successfully: *to withstand rust; to withstand the invaders; to withstand temptation.* —u.i. 2. to stand in opposition; resist. [bef. 900; ME *withstanden*, OE *withstādan* (see *WIT*, *stand*); c. ON *viðstanda*; akin to G *widertehen*] —with-stand'er, n. —with-stand-ing-ness, n. —Syn. 1. confront, face. See *oppose*.

with-ry (with'ry, wīth'ry), n. pl. *with-ries*, adj. *with-er-est*. Chiefly Brit. —n. 1. a willow. 2. a pliable branch or twig, esp. a with. 3. a band, loop, halter, or rope of slender twigs; widdy. —adj. 4. made of pliable branches or twigs, esp. of withes. 5. flexible; pliable. [bef. 1000; ME, OE *withry*; akin to *withra*, ON *withr*, OHG *wida*, Gk *itēa* willow, L *vitula* vine]

with-ry-wind (wīth'ry wīnd', wīth'ry-,) n. traveler's-joy. [1570-80; *withry* + *wind*; r. *withwind*, ME, OE *withwind* (see *WIT*)]

wit-ho (wīt'ho), n. windigo.

wit-less (wīt'les), adj. lacking wit or intelligence; stupid; foolish. [bef. 1000; ME, OE *witless*. See *WIT*, *-less*] —wit-less-ly, adv. —wit-less-ness, n.

wit-ling (wīt'ling), n. a person who affects witiness. [1585-95; *wit* + *-ling*]

wit-loof (wīt'lōf), n. endive (def. 2). [1880-85; < D. equiv. to *wit* white + *loof* foliage. See *WIT*, *LEAF*]

wit-ness (wīt'nīs), v. t. 1. to see, hear, or know by personal presence and perception: *to witness an accident.* 2. to be present at (an occurrence) as a formal witness, spectator, bystander, etc.: *She witnessed our wedding.* 3. to bear witness to; testify to; give or afford evidence of. 4. to attest by one's signature: *He witnessed her will.* —u.i. 5. to bear witness; testify; give or afford evidence. —n. 6. an individual who, being present, personally sees or perceives a thing; a beholder, spectator, or eyewitness. 7. a person or thing that affords evidence. 8. a person who gives testimony, as in a court of law. 9. a person who signs a document attesting the genuineness of its execution. 10. testimony or evidence: *to bear witness to her suffering.* 11. (cap.) a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses. [bef. 950; (n.) ME, OE *witnes* orig., knowledge, understanding; see *WIT*, *-ness*; (v.) ME, deriv. of the n.] —wit/ness-a-ble, adj. —wit/ness-er, n. —Syn. 1. perceive, watch, mark, notice, note. See *observe*. 10. proof, confirmation, substantiation.

wit-ness-box (wīt'nīs boks'), n. Chiefly Brit. See *wit-ness stand*. [1800-10]

wit-ness corner, Survey. a point, marked by a monument, situated at a known distance from and bearing relative to a corner that is used as a reference point but on which it is impossible to place a monument. Cf. *corner* (def. 10a). [1815-20, Amer.]

wit-ness stand, the place occupied by a person giving testimony in a court. Also called, esp. Brit., *wit-ness-box*. [1880-85, Amer.]

Witt (wīt), n. a male given name.

Witte (vīt'; Russ. vīt's'yo), n. Sergei Yul'ievich (sēr'gē' yool'yo vīch; Russ. syīx' gye' yoo'lyi vīch), 1849-1915, Russian statesman.

wit-ted (wīt'it), adj. having wit or wits (usually used in combination): *quick-witted; slow-witted; dull-witted.* [1350-1400; ME; see *WIT*, *-ed*] —wit-ted-ness, n.

Witte-kind (vīt's kīnt'), n. died A.D. 8077, Westphalian chief leader of the Saxons against Charlemagne. Also, *Widukind*.

Witten-berg (wīt'n bōrg; Ger. vīt'n bērk'), n. a city in E central Germany, on the Elbe; Luther taught in the university here; beginnings of the Reformation 1517, 54, 190.

Witt-gen-stein (vīt'gən stēn', stēn'), n. Ludwig (Lo-sef Jo-hann) (lō'sēf' yō'hān yō'zēf yō'hān, lō'sēf'), 1889-1951, Austrian philosopher. —Witt'gen-stēn'ian, adj., n.

wit-th-claim (wīt's klēm), n. a witty remark or sentence. [1645-55; deriv. of *WIT*, modeled on criticism] —Syn. joke, jest, quip, rally, wisecrack.

wit-ting (wīt'ing), adj. 1. knowing; aware; conscious. —n. 2. North Eng. knowledge. [1250-1300; ME *witing*. See *WIT*, *-ing*, *-ing*, *-ing*] —wit-ting-ly, adv.

wit-to-les (wīt'les), n. Archaic. a man who knows of and tolerates his wife's infidelity. [1400-50; late ME *wete-wold*, equiv. to *wete* *with* + (coke)wold cuckoo]

Wit-ty (wīt'ty), adj. -tier, -tiest. 1. possessing wit in speech or writing; amusingly clever in perception and expression: *a witty writer.* 2. characterized by wit: *a witty remark.* 3. Brit. Dial. intelligent; clever. [bef. 900; ME; OE *witig* orig., wise. See *WIT*, *-y*] —wit-ty-ly, adv. —wit-ty-ness, n. —Syn. 1, 2. droll, funny, original, sparkling, brilliant. See *humorous*. —Ant. 1, 2. dull, stupid.

Wit-waters-rand (wīt'wō'ters rānd', wō't'ers-), n. a rocky ridge in S Africa, in the Republic of South Africa, near Johannesburg. Also called *The Rand*.

wive (wīv), v. u. wived, wiv-ing. —u.i. 1. to take a wife; marry. —u.i. 2. to take as wife; marry. 3. to provide with a wife. [bef. 900; ME *wiven*, OE *wifian*, deriv. of *wif*; see *WIFE*]

wi-vern (wī'vern), n. *Heraldry*. wyvern.

wives (wīvz), n. pl. of *wife*.

wiz (wīz), n. wizard (def. 3). [1900-05; by shortening]

wiz-ard (wīz'ard), n. 1. a person who practices magic; magician or sorcerer. 2. a conjurer or juggler. 3. Also, *wiz*, a person of amazing skill or accomplishment: *a wizard of chemistry.* —adj. 4. of or pertaining to a wizard. 5. magic. 6. Brit. Slang. superb; excellent; wonderful: *That's wizard!* [1400-50; late ME *wizard*. See *WIS*, *-ard*] —wiz'ard-like, adj. —Syn. 1. enchanter, necromancer, diviner.

wiz-ard-ly (wīz'ard lē), adj. of, like, or befitting a wizard. [1580-90; *wizard* + *-ly*]

wiz-ard-ry (wīz'ard rē), n. the art, skill, or accomplishments of a wizard. [1575-85; *wizard* + *-ry*]

wiz-en (wīz'en; wē'zen), Brit. Dial. —u.i. 1. p. 1. to wither; shrivel; dry up. —adj. 2. wizened. [bef. 900; (v.) ME *wisenen*, OE *wisnian*; c. ON *visna* to wither; (adj.) shortened form of *WIZENED*]

wiz-ened (wīz'end; wē'zend), adj. withered; shriveled: *a wizened old man; wizened features.* [1505-15; *wizen* + *-ed*]

wk., 1. week. 2. work.

wkly. weekly.

wl., 1. Also, *w.l.* water line. 2. wavelength.

Wla-di-mir (vlād'ē mē'r; Russ. vlu dē'myrl), n. Vladimir.

WLB, War Labor Board.

w. long., west longitude.

WM, white male.

WM, William.

CONCISE PRONUNCIATION KEY: acc. cāps, dārs, pārt, set, equal; if, loc. ex, over, order, oil, 0554, book, out, up, 0rg; child; sing, shoe; thin, that; sh as in treasure, s = o as in alone, e as in system, i as in easily, o as in gallop, u as in circus, y as in fire (fī'r), hour (hō'r), l and n can serve as syllabic consonants, as in cradle (krād'l) and button (bat'n). See the full key inside the front cover.